



The Webb County Link

A Publication Of The Webb County Public Information Office

April 2013

In This Issue

- * Employee Appreciation Luncheon Pg 1
- * Brain Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation Pg 1
- * 3rd Annual Hero Salute Month Recap Pg 2
- * Autism Awareness Month Pg 2
- * The Power Of A Second Chance Pg 3
- * New Help Line Implemented Pg 3
- * Ringside Cook-Off Pg 3
- * Child Abuse & Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month Pg 4
- * Larga Vista April Events Recap Pg 4
- * Pct. 4 Día Del Niño Celebration Pg 4
- * Women Build Day Press Conference Pg 4

Important Dates

- * 4/1 Easter Monday County Offices Closed
- * 4/8 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am
- * 4/8 Jury Duty
- * 4/10 New Employee Orientation
- * 4/22 Commissioners Court Meeting 9:00am
- * 4/22 Jury Duty

Employee Appreciation Luncheon



Hundreds of Webb County employees attended the Seventh Annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon. The luncheon, sponsored by the Webb County Commissioners Court is held every year as a "Thank You" from the Judge and Commissioners to all the employees and as a way to thank them for all their hard work throughout the year. The luncheon is held every year in conjunction with National County Government Month, a program that raises public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of county government.

Brain Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation

Commissioner Mike Montemayor along with the Commissioners Court proclaimed the month of May 2013 as Brain Cancer Awareness Month in Webb County. The Commissioners were joined by Mr. Daniel Martinez who has set out to educate the public about this serious condition and to let those who suffer from this ailment know that they have support.



3rd Annual Hero Salute Month Recap

Webb County Commissioners Jaime Canales and Mike Montemayor wrapped up the 3rd Annual Hero Salute Month with a luncheon for all members of the military and their families. Several events were held in celebration of Hero Salute Month and the Commissioners joined local-area veterans in collecting artifacts for the Juan Francisco Farias Military Museum. A candlelight vigil and prayer service was also held to honor Webb County Veterans, members of the United States Armed Forces and their families. The service took place at the Texas

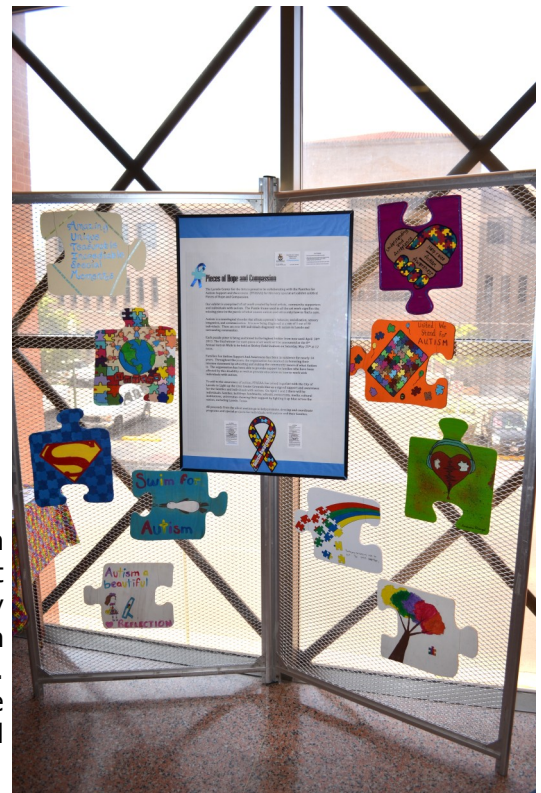


National Guard Armory. The Commissioners capped off the luncheon by thanking the veterans and their families for all their sacrifice and devotion to the nation and pledging to continue supporting them.



Autism Awareness Month

The month of April had been proclaimed as Autism Awareness Month in Webb County and in commemoration the Webb County Courthouse was lit up in blue all month long. The Courthouse lights, organized by Commissioner Wawi Tijerina, joined many other buildings across the nation in highlighting the growing need for concern and awareness about autism. Also on display was artwork by children and families affected by the condition. The display was open to the public and located on the second floor of the Justice Center throughout the month.



The Power of a Second Chance

A changed life has a tremendous impact not only on the individual and his family, but also on the community. Webb County's Drug Court programs have set out to help individuals make that impact. The County Attorney's Family Drug Treatment Court was designed for parents (adults) that have an open CPS (Child Protective Services) case and have had their children taken from them due to drug abuse. The children end up in foster care while their parents attend drug court meetings, counseling sessions, rehab, fitness and health classes, parenting classes and any other assignments given by the drug court. The process can take anywhere from 9 months to a year. As long as the parent(s) continue to test negative and stay sober, they can go on to graduate from the program and be reunified with their children. The Family Drug Treatment Court's ultimate goal is reunification and strengthening the family unit. It keeps court costs down, parents off of drugs and children in their homes. It's on a voluntary basis and there are qualifications that must be met which is decided upon the drug court committee. The County Attorney's Family Drug Court has been operating for about two years, with a high successful rate.



New Help Line Implemented

For those who have questions about their on-line applications, an "HR Help Line" has been implemented. An automated voice system now answers the most asked questions by our applicants by offering options when they call this number: 523-4485. For example, if they are experiencing technical problems, they are provided with and referred to our on line system's NEOGOV 800 number 1-877-204-4442. If they are checking the status of their application, they are told the next steps by selecting that particular option. All of this is in the hope of assisting the applicant during their job seeking efforts and reducing the number of calls on these frequently asked questions. The Administrative Services/Human Resources office is asking for your assistance in "spreading the word" about our new HELP LINE, with individuals who are applying and seeking employment with Webb County. The goal is to provide fast and efficient Customer Service! Any hiring process questions can be directed to evasquez@webbcountytx.gov or nrodriguez@webbcountytx.gov

Ring Side Cook Off

On Saturday, April 20, 2013 Sheriff Martin Cuellar and the Webb County Sheriff's Office Police Athletic League hosted its first ever Ring Side Cook Off. The fun filled day kicked off with a trail ride with over 50 riders and continued throughout the day with over 20 amateur boxing fights. Participants and spectators enjoyed live musical performances by local Tejano groups Elemento del Amor, Vital and Zenzible. Also joining the musical performance was Grammy Award Winner and Tejano Artist Michael Salgado. To close out the event, the all day cooking competition for best brisket, ribs and fajitas was announced. All proceeds from the event benefit the Police Athletic League program of the Webb County Sheriff's Office that incorporates a annual baseball clinic, year round boxing gym and the new program of bowling for the youth of Webb County.



Child Abuse & Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month

Several county, city, school, and non-profit agencies joined Webb County Judge Danny Valdez and City of Laredo Mayor Raul Salinas as they proclaimed April 2013 as Child Abuse & Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month. Representatives from the various agencies spoke on the need for people to reach out, raise the issue, and support the victims. Everyone in attendance was urged to break the cycle of abuse and assault by understanding the causes and effects of the horrific crimes and joining with the community as a whole in preventing them from reoccurring.



Larga Vista April Events Recap



It was an lively April for the Larga Vista Community Center as the center hosted several events for area residents, including a Community Baby Shower, Child Development &

CPR Classes, and a Head Start parent meeting. The center capped off the month with their annual "Día del Niño" party for area children. The event was attended by over 100 kids who were entertained by special guest Payasita Sonrisitas.



Precinct Four Día del Niño Celebration

Commissioner Jaime Canales held his second annual Día del Niño party for precinct four children. The event has become a tradition that the children look forward to as they are provided with music, food, games, gifts from Commissioner Canales, and an all-around fun time provided by Clown Bolitas.



Women Build Day Press Conference

Commissioner Rosaura "Wawi" Tijerina and City Councilmember Cindy Liendo were designated honorary Construction Superintendents for the upcoming Women Build Event. Representatives from Habitat for Humanity and Lowe's were on hand as the Commissioner Tijerina and Councilmember Liendo encouraged women to participate in this empowering and worthwhile cause. Women Build Day will be held on May 3rd & 4th. Women interested in participating can contact Commissioner Tijerina's office at (956) 523-4624. Training will be held the evening of Wednesday, May 1st.



Submit your department stories for next month! E-mail your story along with any pictures to webbpio@webbcountytx.gov. Stories will be edited for style, grammar, and length. Please be advised that, due to space limitations, we cannot guarantee that all stories will be publicized.